

September 12, 1960

Honorable Francis E. Walter
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Francis:

I have given a great deal of thought to your letter of 2 September 1960.

One purpose of my telephone call to you on 2 September, was to thank you for inserting in the Congressional Record the full text of my address before the Veterans of Foreign Wars at Detroit on 22 August 1960.

Another purpose was to call attention to an AP report of a statement which you made to the press on 1 September, and which was widely circulated throughout the country, that "The FBI gave the CIA certain information which certainly should have deterred the hiring of at least one of those two men," referring to the two NSA defectors. The AP added "He declined to amplify."

I feel sure that this statement was made on the basis of a misunderstanding since it has no basis in fact. No such information was given to the CIA by the FBI, or by anyone else, and there was no particular reason why it should have been so given since the question of the screening of these two men for employment by NSA was not a matter over which the CIA had jurisdiction or responsibility.

Subsequently on September 7, 1960, the Department of Justice gave out the following statement:

"Reports that the FBI had furnished unfavorable information to the Department of Defense of Mitchell and Martin prior to its employment of them are erroneous. The pre-employment investigation of these men was conducted by the Department of Defense and not by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In response to the normal inquiry made by the Department of Defense in the course of its investigation, the FBI reported that it had no information in its files concerning these men."

In my telephone call to you, I also expressed regret that your statement was tied in closely to another statement attributed to you by the Associated Press that "The CIA will be the first target of inquiry."

I sincerely hope that you will find occasion to correct the record as regards the prior furnishing of information to this Agency about the NSA defectors.

I should welcome an opportunity to discuss with you certain other comments in your letter, rather than attempt to deal with them by correspondence. You and I have had many good talks together and since we have both spent many years of our lives in trying to expose and defeat the subversive communist menace, it is unfortunate there should be the misunderstanding which your letter indicates.

There is one further point, however, that I would wish to clarify. This relates to the statement in your letter regarding CIA "reluctance to convey to the Congress any information regarding its personnel, as well as its activities in the field of national security. . . ."

The Congress itself has set up, in the Senate and the House, subcommittees of the Appropriations Committees and of the Armed Services Committees, for CIA matters. We have appeared many times before these committees and certain other committees to which we have responsibilities, such as the Joint Atomic Energy Committee. In 1959

there were 28 such appearances and so far in 1960 16 appearances. We have uniformly responded to requests from these committees, and several times I have taken the initiative in asking the committee to hear me. I do not recall a single instance during appearances before these committees when we have failed to answer fully and frankly their questions with respect to CIA activities. I feel sure that if you would inquire of Representative Cannon or Representative Kilday, the respective chairmen of the two subcommittees I have mentioned, they would bear out what I have said.

Certainly I agree with you that there can be no monopoly whatsoever in the mobilization and deployment of the resources of the country in meeting the Communist menace. In my speech at Detroit, which I gather you viewed favorably, I tried to emphasize this viewpoint and the need for a far broader understanding by the country of the grave issues which face us.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) ALLEN W. DULLES

Allen W. Dulles
Director

AWD:at

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee
1 cc - DCI w/basic ✓
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1 cc - ER
1 cc - Legis. Counsel
1 cc - IG

FRANCIS E. WALTER, M.
15TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

RUTH MISKELL, AD. ASSISTANT
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

2 September 1960

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN
ACTIVITIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION
MEMBER
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION
AND NATIONALITY POLICY
U. S. DELEGATE, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION

Honorable Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Allen:

I cannot refrain from telling you frankly that I was offended by your comment, over the telephone, on my proposal designed to have the Congress authorize one of its Committees to study and investigate the activities of certain security and intelligence agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency. As a strong supporter of yourself and the CIA (often without enjoying the benefit of reciprocity) I did not expect to be at the receiving end of your rather acid remarks.

Believe me, it is not very easy to maintain a favorable attitude toward the CIA. Some of the criticism of the CIA's activities, particularly the manner in which its personnel is selected and screened for security and aptitude, appear at times to be rather well founded. The same thing applies, incidentally, to some of the other intelligence agencies.

It is most unfortunate that the dense cloak of secrecy with which you surrounded the Agency and the reluctance to convey to the Congress any information regarding its personnel, as well as its activities in the field of national security, has in fact placed the CIA entirely out of the reach of those who have a mandate—not a curiosity, let me stress — to survey security policy and security operations involving the very survival of the Nation.

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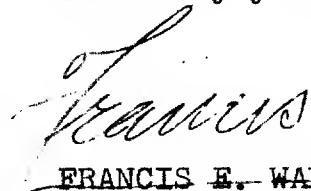
Honorable Allen Dulles

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2 September 1960

It is important, it seems to me that you yourself, and your employees, realize that they have no monopoly in the struggle with Communism and that there is no foundation for the creation of a myth of such monopoly. I sincerely believe that if some of the other able and courageous Americans would have at their disposal but a fraction of the tools with which the CIA has equipped itself - often without the knowledge of the Congress - far better results could be achieved.

Sincerely yours,



FRANCIS E. WALTER, M.D.



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GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

7 September 1960

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter from Congressman Francis E. Walter to Mr. Gates, dated August 31st. Late last evening we received a wire advising us that the hearing had been postponed until September 16th. A copy of this wire is also enclosed herewith.

Sincerely,

J. Vincent Burke
J. VINCENT BURKE, JR.

Enclosures

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency

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Exhibit 17

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HONORABLE THOMAS S GATES JR, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE PENTAGON WASHDC

REFERENCE IS MADE TO MY LETTER OF AUGUST 31, 1960. THE EXECUTIVE
SESSION AT WHICH YOU WERE REQUESTED TO HAVE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WHICH IS HEREBY POSTPONED FROM
SEPTEMBER 9 TO SEPTEMBER 16

FRANCIS E WALTER CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1960

Honorable Thomas S. Gates, Jr.
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

On August 2, the American people were shocked by the disclosure that two National Security Agency mathematicians, on a mysteriously prolonged vacation, were apparently fleeing the United States for sanctuary behind the Iron or Bamboo Curtain.

On August 6, four days later, Army authorities in Bonn, Germany, confirmed that a Polish-American soldier was missing from his duty station, the 513th Military Intelligence Group, located at Frankfurt. As is now known, this defector has now sought and received asylum in Moscow.

These apparent defections of NSA employees, Bermon F. Mitchell and William H. Martin, and the Army linguist, Vladimir Sloboda, disclose what in my opinion is a glaring weakness in the American security set-up. This opinion is not mine alone, but is shared by members of the Committee on Un-American Activities and most of the members of the House who have discussed these disappearances with me.

These questions are asked:

What was the background of Mitchell, Martin and Sloboda? What type of investigation was made into the background of each, prior to their employment? What security weaknesses did each possess, if any? What officials of Government evaluated the information obtained during the investigation? What concern did the N.S.A. or Army have over the activities of these individuals prior to their disappearance? Was any information received by their respective agencies during their employment which would cause their agencies to question their loyalty? When did the Government learn of their intention not to return to their respective offices? What information does the Government now possess respecting the disappearance of each? Another most important question is whether other Government

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Secretary of Defense

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employees have aided any of these disappearances.

It is apparent to me that Executive regulations intended to guarantee the loyalty of Government employees, especially of sensitive agencies, are not effective and are not safeguarding the security of the United States. It therefore appears that if the United States is to be protected from within, it must be done by legislation with criminal penalties imposed upon those not carrying out the requirements of legislation. To effect this, I propose to amend the general security bill, H.R. 2232, which I introduced.

In order that the Committee may be guided in its consideration of such legislation, I request that you designate representatives of the Department of Defense to appear before the Committee in Executive Session on September 9, 1960, at 10:30 A.M. These representatives should be possessed of all the necessary to answer the questions set forth in this letter, and other questions dealing with over-all security procedures.

Sincerely yours,



Francis E. Walter
Chairman